



USDA EGG MARKET NEWS REPORT

ISSN 1520-6122

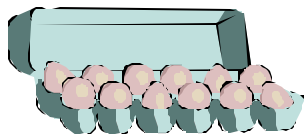
MONDAY
MARCH 06, 2000
VOL. 47 NO. 19

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch



NATIONAL EGG MARKET AT-A-GLANCE

In Florida and major Ohio cities, prices were lower. Elsewhere, prices were unchanged. Demand was mixed in a full range, light to fairly good, mostly light to moderate, with best movement centering around the scattered feature activity. Supplies of all sizes remained adequate to available, instances burdensome. Breaking stock offerings were mixed in a full range with limited demand usually noted as dealers cautiously assess market developments. Light type fowl were fully adequate for current schedules.

NORTH ATLANTIC SHELL In Philadelphia, prices were unchanged to four cents lower on all sizes when based on previous week average prices. In Boston and New England, prices were unchanged. The market tone was generally steady. Demand was light to moderate, best where retail items were featured and first of the month business. Supplies were adequate to available on all sizes. Breaking stock offerings were fully adequate to ample for the mostly fair demand. Light type fowl were fully sufficient for slaughter needs.

NEW YORK Prices were unchanged. The market tone was generally steady. Demand ranged light to moderate, best into features and first of the month business. Supplies of all sizes were adequate to available.

CHICAGO Prices were unchanged. The market tone was steady. Retail and food service demand light to moderate, best where features are planned or in progress. Offerings adequate.

MIDWEST Prices were unchanged to slightly lower in major Ohio cities and were unchanged in all other areas. The trade sentiment was at least steady. Retail demand was fair to fairly good, best into feature activity. Food service movement was mostly moderate. Supplies were mixed, usually adequate to at times available. Central States nest run breaking stock prices were unchanged. Trading and demand were quiet as breakers assess current production requirements. Offerings were light. Trade sentiment was mostly steady to instances cautiously steady.

SOUTHERN In Florida, prices were lower, elsewhere, prices were unchanged. The market tone was about steady. Demand was generally moderate entering the week, with best movement centering around the scattered feature interest. The average price on Grade A or better white cartoned large eggs delivered to volume buyers in the Southern region for the week ending March 3, 2000, was 53.10 cents, 11.09 cents less than last week, and 14.82 cents less than the same week last year. Breaking stock supplies were fully adequate to ample for the light to fair demand. Light type fowl offerings were fully adequate for buyer needs.

WESTERN Prices unchanged on all sizes throughout the region. The Pacific region inventory was 2% higher than last Monday with California unchanged and Oregon-Washington-Utah up 5%. Retailer demand moderate, best where features planned. Offerings ample.

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, GRADE A AND US GRADE A WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED STORE DOOR OR WAREHOUSE, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	EXTRA LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM
NORTHEAST CITIES			
Boston (Brown)	89-91	82-84	59-61
New York	56-58	53-56	44-47
Philadelphia	54-56	52-54	43-44
SOUTHERN CITIES			
Atlanta (1) (2)	47-48	45.5-47	37-38
Jackson (1)	57-58	54-55	46-47
Major Louisiana Cities (1)	54-67	51-65	41-55
MIDWEST CITIES			
Chicago	46-51	45-50	35-40
Detroit (2)	43-46	42-45	31-34
Major Ohio Cities (2)	44-49	43-47	32-37
Major Wisconsin Cities	47-54	45-52	35-42
WESTERN CITIES			
Houston (1)	62-65	59-61	48-49
California(Grade AA)(1)(3)	84	77	67

- (1) - Prices reported weekly
(2) - Delivered Warehouse
(3) - Reported Invoice prices

CALIFORNIA EGGS Prices unchanged. The California inventory was unchanged from last Monday. Retailer demand moderate, best where features planned. Offerings ample. Small invoice price 47. Ads in Northern California: major- large dozen 89-119.

PRICES INVOICE, USDA GRADE AA AND GRADE AA, IN CARTONS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE
JUMBO	97
EXTRA LARGE	84
LARGE	77
MEDIUM	67

PRICES TO CONSUMERS MAJOR CHAINS, METROPOLITAN AREA, USDA GRADE AA AND GRADE AA, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

	RANGE		RANGE
JUMBO	229-289	JUMBO	219-269
EXTRA LARGE	219-279	EXTRA LARGE	189-239
LARGE	199-209	LARGE	189-219
MEDIUM	187-199	MEDIUM	139-179

NATIONAL RETAIL EGG PURCHASES REPORT Cooperators estimate orders for the week ending March 10, 2000 will increase by 7 percent. Present week purchases for the week ending March 03, 2000 were 248,807 cases which was 6 percent above the prior week and 4 percent above estimates.

	CARTONED	LOOSE	TOTAL
Cases purchased present week.....	214,624	34,183	248,807
% change from the prior week.....	+8	-3	+6

Comparison figures are compiled on a matched plant basis. Purchases and estimates by 17 cooperators; 30 dozen cases or equivalent.

CENTRAL STATES BREAKING STOCK Prices unchanged. Trading and demand were quiet as breakers assess current production requirements. Offerings were light. Trade sentiment mostly steady to instances cautious.

PRICES PAID TO 11:00 A.M., MATERIAL EXCHANGED, 30 DOZEN CASE EQUIVALENT, 48 LB. MINIMUM NET WEIGHT, DELIVERED TO BREAKERS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

RANGE	MOSTLY NEST RUN
23-28	25-27
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	10-13

CENTRAL STATES AREA:

AR,CO,IA,IL,IN,KS,LA,MI,MN,MO,NM,ND,NE,OH,OK,SD,TX,WI

SOUTH CENTRAL HEAVY LIVE HEN Prices ranged unchanged but the majority was unchanged to lower when compared to a week earlier. Demand was moderate for adequate to fully adequate offerings. Schedules were normal. Trade sentiment was about steady to steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) *
FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY
FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 06-MAR-00

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	8.75-14.25	11-12	11.48

* WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

SOUTHEAST HEAVY LIVE HEN REPORT Major prices were unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Demand was light to good. Offerings were fully adequate for current needs. The undertone was about steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) *
FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR
SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 06-MAR-00

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	7-15	8.25-11.75	10.46

AT FARM PRODUCER LOADING FOB PLANT	TOO FEW TO REPORT TOO FEW TO REPORT
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* WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

WEEKLY SHELL EGG INVENTORY REPORT- AM Mar 06, 2000

STOCKS ON HAND AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING 1/
(30 DOZEN CASES-IN THOUSANDS)

			NO CENT	SO CENT	SO Atl	5-Area Pacific	
Jumbo	Curr Wk	8.0	12.4	5.5	13.9	8.6	48.4
	Change	-2.2	-0.5	-0.6	0.3	-1.7	-9%
Ex Lge	Curr Wk	23.1	30.8	10.3	29.0	21.2	114.4
	Change	-1.6	-4.1	-0.4	1.9	-1.6	-5%
Large	Curr Wk	49.6	84.5	59.6	76.5	86.7	356.9
	Change	-0.3	-5.5	3.8	1.5	4.6	1%
Medium	Curr Wk	14.5	27.3	14.7	25.5	19.5	101.5
	Change	-4.2	-2.6	0.4	0.3	0.1	-6%
Small	Curr Wk	4.0	8.6	1.3	7.9	5.6	27.4
	Change	-1.0	1.3	-1.4	0.2	0.0	-3%
Misc	Curr Wk	4.8	13.7	6.4	11.4	7.2	43.5
	Change	0.3	-4.4	-1.6	-0.5	0.2	-12%
Ungraded	Curr Wk	33.9	63.1	14.0	41.6	49.9	202.5
	Change	3.9	8.3	1.9	10.6	1.8	15%
Total	Curr Wk	137.9	240.4	111.8	205.8	198.7	894.6
Percent	Change	-4%	-3%	2%	7%	2%	1%

TOTAL	Number of Cases	Percent Change	Number of Cooperators
Shell Egg	894.6	1%	166
Shell Egg Breaking Stock	420.8	1%	40
Total Shell Egg	1315.4	1%	206

1/Information is supplied by a universe of 166 cooperators who normally have stocks on hand each Monday A.M. and is on the basis of matched plants reporting in both the current and previous weeks. Sample does not represent total U.S. inventory but includes eggs packed for export when in cooperator's coolers.

No valid comparison can be made with year ago or previous months' figures due to changes in number of plants surveyed, holidays falling in different weeks or changes in size of plant operations.

CANADIAN EGGS MONTREAL: WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE TO RETAILERS (CANADIAN CENTS) GRADED IN CARTONS, AS REPORTED BY CANADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 21, 2000

GRADE A	XLARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
	162	158.9	149.9	108.9

MINIMUM PRODUCER PRICES FOB FARM FOR THE WEEK COMMENCING FEBRUARY 21, 2000 AS ESTABLISHED BY ONTARIO EGG AND FOWL PRODUCERS MARKETING BOARD.

GRADE A	XLARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
	126	126	116	76

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES — DAILY WTD AVERAGE PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR MARCH 03, 2000

CURRENT LOADS								FUTURE LOADS								TOTAL LOADS							
26.00								11.00								37.00							
SE				NE		MW		LOADS		SC				NW		SW		LOADS					
CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST		CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST									
GNR W 1	—	—	30.25	32.00	—	—	2.00	GNR BR 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.00							
GNR W 2	—	32.00	30.00	31.00	29.00	—	2.00	GL W LG	34.00	—	—	—	—	42.00	12.00								
GNR BR 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2.00	GL W MD	23.88	27.00	—	—	—	28.00	5.00								
GL W XL	—	—	—	41.00	38.50	40.00	4.00																
GL W LG	—	—	—	—	32.00	—	9.00																
GL W MD	25.00	27.00	26.00	28.00	24.50	26.50	4.00																
NRBS - 48	—	—	—	—	25.00	27.00	3.00																

WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICES ARE LISTED FOR VARIOUS CLASSES PRICED BY ORIGIN AND/OR DESTINATION FOR 6 REGIONS. THE LOADS COLUMN REFLECTS TOTAL LOADS REPORTED AND INCLUDES LOADS WITH PRICES TO BE DETERMINED LATER. NRBS CATEGORIES REPRESENT NET WEIGHT - MATERIAL MAY OR MAY NOT BE INCLUDED.

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES — WEEKLY (5-DAY) WTD AVE PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR 02/26/00-03/03/00

CURRENT LOADS								113.75	FUTURE LOADS								75.25	TOTAL LOADS								189.00					
SE				NE				MW				LOADS				SC				NW				SW				LOADS			
CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST				
GNR W 1	29.33	37.00	30.25	32.00	32.00	—	20.00		GNR W 1	—	36.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3.00			
GNR W 2	—	32.00	29.33	32.00	28.96	32.75	11.00		GNR W 2	—	32.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3.00			
GNR W 3	—	—	—	—	22.63	25.13	4.00		GNR BR 1	—	60.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.50			
GNR W 4	—	—	17.00	19.00	—	—	1.00		GL W J	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.00			
GNR BR 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2.00		GL W XL	37.38	39.75	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8.50			
GL W J	—	—	—	—	40.50	—	1.00		GL W LG	33.94	39.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	18.25			
GL W XL	36.00	39.65	36.25	38.60	37.16	40.00	26.50		GL W MD	23.15	27.00	—	—	—	—	23.00	27.82	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10.50			
GL W LG	36.00	39.00	32.50	36.20	33.77	—	24.50		NRBS - 48	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5.00			
GL W MD	25.00	28.00	25.13	27.00	27.95	28.88	25.50																								
GL W SM	—	—	20.00	21.75	—	—	2.00																								
NRBS - 48	—	—	25.00	31.33	24.58	26.38	43.50																								
NRBS - 45	—	—	—	30.00	23.50	—	1.00																								
NRBS - 39	—	—	—	—	—	—	4.00																								
NRBS - 36	—	—	—	—	6.00	9.00	2.00																								

WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICES ARE LISTED FOR VARIOUS CLASSES PRICED BY ORIGIN AND/OR DESTINATION FOR 6 REGIONS. THE LOADS COLUMN REFLECTS TOTAL LOADS REPORTED AND INCLUDES LOADS WITH PRICES TO BE DETERMINED LATER. NRBS CATEGORIES REPRESENT NET WEIGHT - MATERIAL MAY OR MAY NOT BE INCLUDED.

NUMBER OF CASES OF EGGS SHIPPED TO CALIFORNIA 02/20/00 - 02/26/00

Origin State	AR	CO	IL	IA	MI	MN	MO	NY	OH	OR	PA	TX	UT	TOTAL
N. CA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,551	0	0	2,125	4,676
C. CA	0	0	0	840	0	840	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,680
S. CA	1,660	4,876	29	9,471	725	4,280	4,304	870	3,287	0	780	960	4,115	35,357
TTL STATE	1,660	4,876	29	10,311	725	5,120	4,304	870	3,287	2,551	780	960	6,240	41,713

SHIPPED TO MILITARY: 0

NEW ENGLAND

PRICES PAID TO PRODUCERS, CASES EXCHANGED, GRADE YIELD BASIS, BROWN EGGS LOOSE, AT FARM, CENTS PER DOZEN.

JUMBO	EX-LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
107-110	70-73	63-66	40-43	16-19

DETROIT EGGS

PRICES TO FIRST RECEIVERS, CASES INCLUDED, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, 30 DOZEN CASES, WHITE EGGS LOOSE, CENTS PER DOZEN.

JUMBO	EX-LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
51-54	42-48	40-45	29-34	23-27

IOWA-MINNESOTA-WISCONSIN

PRICES PAID TO PRODUCERS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
26-28	17-19	13-15

NORTH CAROLINA EGGS

PRICES WEIGHTED AVERAGE, IN SMALL LOTS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, NEARBY RETAIL OUTLET, CENTS PER DOZEN.

LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
60.71	52.53	41.18

COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT-FROZEN EGGS (In Thousands)

ON HAND	2/28/00	2/21/00	3/1/99
PACIFIC COAST	120	125	59
LOS ANGELES	0	0	0

HONOLULU, OAHU-WHITE SHELL EGGS PRICES DELIVERED TO RETAILERS, GRADE A STORE DOOR FEBRUARY 29,2000:

	CARTONS	WTG AVG
EX-LARGE	149-155	153.45
LARGE	143-150	148.24
MEDIUM	124-135	132.41
SMALL	105-109	106.29

Receipts from the mainland: 2/20/00-2/26/00
30-dozen cases 4,424

Receipts from the mainland: 2/13/00-2/19/00
30-dozen cases 2,982

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